



US20020004

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Van Hauwermeiren et al.
Serial No.: 10/049,735 Group Art Unit: 1746
Filing Date: February 15, 2002 Atty. Docket No.: US20020004
Title: METHOD FOR CLEANING AND REFRESHING FABRICS


Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or to credit any overpayment to account 23-1660.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
John F. Colligan, Reg. 48,240
Telephone: (269) 923-6439

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: June 11, 2004


Barbara L. Katowich

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant(s): Van Hauwermeiren et al.
 Application No.: 10/049,735
 Filing Date: February 15, 2002
 Atty. Docket No.: US20020004
 Title: Method For Cleaning And Refreshing Fabrics
 Examiner: Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the following patents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Patent:

<u>REF.</u>	<u>PATENT NO.</u>	<u>PATENTEE</u>	<u>ISSUE DATE</u>
AA	4,761,305	Ochiai	August 2, 1988
AB	5,305,484	Fitzpatrick et al.	April 26, 1994
AC	5,649,372	Souza	July 22, 1997
AD	5,789,368	You et al.	August 4, 1998
AE	5,815,961	Estes et al.	October 6, 1998

<u>REF</u>	<u>PATENT NO.</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>ISSUE DATE</u>
AF	FR 2704008	France	October 21, 1994
AG	DE 2433909	Germany	February 5, 1976
AH	DE 2357646	Germany	May 22, 1975


References AA – AG were cited in the International Search Report. Copies of these references are already on file at the USPTO as indicated by form PCT/DC/EO/903 dated March 22, 2002. The references cited in the International Preliminary Examination Report are a subset of references AA-AG. Accordingly, only a copy of reference AH is attached for the Examiners convenience and review.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicants submit that reference AH, as presently understood, is relevant because it discloses a cloth drying and refreshing apparatus that is made of a flexible and thus foldable container, which can be arranged into two rigid end-portions. Reference AH was cited by the European Patent Office during the corresponding EPO national stage application process. Applicants do not have an English translation of reference AH.

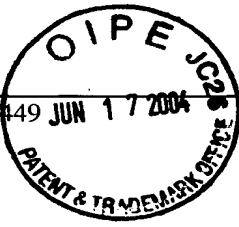
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 11, 2004

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEDocket No.
US20020004Serial No.
10/049,735Applicant:
Van Hauwermeiren et al.**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

(use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date
February 15, 2002Group Art Unit
1746**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA	4,761,305	08/02/99	Ochiai	427	180	09/08/87
	AB	5,305,484	04/26/94	Fitzpatrick et al.	8	149.3	06/01/92
	AC	5,649,372	07/22/97	Souza	34	491	03/14/96
	AD	5,789,368	08/04/98	You et al.	510	297	01/17/97
	AE	5,815,961	10/06/98	Estes et al.	38	14	06/06/97

FOREIGN PATENTS

		Document Number	Date		Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AF	FR 2704008	10/21/94	FR	D06F	73/00	X	
	AG	DE 2433909	02/05/76	Germany	D06F	87/00	X	
	AH	DE 2357646	05/22/75	Germany	D06F	58/00	X	

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
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***Examiner:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.